

*Standing Committees on Finance, Public Works, etc.,
in the Nagercoil Municipality.*

136. **MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala):** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any standing committee either for finance, public works or for the supervision of the general health, in the Nagercoil Municipality; and

(b) if not, whether directions will be given to the Municipality to form them?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The Government do not propose to do so, as, under Section 27 (i) of the Municipal Regulation, the Council is empowered to appoint, from among its own members, sub-committees consisting of such number of persons as it thinks fit, from time to time as necessity arises.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala): Are the Government aware that in municipal corporations generally finance committee, health committee and public works committee are appointed?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): I cannot say anything about it now.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala): In view of the large amount of expenditure incurred by the Nagercoil Municipality, do not the Government see the necessity for appointing a finance committee as in the Legislative Council?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): That does not follow. Sub-committees can be formed at any stage from among the Municipal Council members.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala): Have not the Government power under the Municipal Regulation to direct the Municipalities to do things as they think fit in the best interests of the Municipality?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): Yes, there are some provisions.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala): Do not the appointment of these committees come under that head?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): The question is not one of the competency of the Government to do that. The Municipal Council should address the Government in the matter if it thinks necessary.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala): Are not the Government watching over the administration of the Municipality in the best interests of the Municipality?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): Yes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (Tovala): Do not the Government feel the necessity for such committees?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (Secretary to Government): The Government have not felt the necessity.

Sir, under Standing Order 9, the first hour of every sitting shall be available for the answering of questions. One hour has now passed and I solicit a ruling as to whether we may go on with the questions.

PRESIDENT : How many questions more are there?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Ten more questions remain.

PRESIDENT : Let them also be over.

Patents obtained by Travancoreans.

137. **MR. C. P. THOMAS** (*Nominated*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of patents obtained by Travancoreans since the passing of the Patents and Designs Regulation, with a description of the nature and uses of each Patent?

(2) Have the Government given any aid to the inventors of any of these Patents to enable them to popularise the same?

(3) If not, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of doing so?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) A statement* containing the information asked for by the member is laid on the table.

(2) and (3) None, except one, the grantee of Patent No. 25 of 1096, applied for any aid. The Government have allowed adequate facilities for popularising the invention in this one case. There are also the industrial loans which it is open to the patentees to avail themselves of subject to the rules regulating their grant.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Do the Government know why only one patentee has applied for any aid?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The patentees themselves have to be asked why they did not apply.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Have the Government any information as to the reason for it?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Government have no information.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): According to the rules, cannot a patentee apply for loans?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No mention of patentees has been specifically made in the rules.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Do the Government think that the reason may be because they did not know that they can apply for loans?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Loans are granted for the purposes specifically mentioned in the rules.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Do the Government think that these purposes include loans to patentees also?

* Vide Appendix X—p ge 358